

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1        1. A data processor comprising:

2                C execution clusters, each of said C execution clusters  
3 comprising an instruction execution pipeline having N processing  
4 stages capable of executing instruction bundles comprising from one  
5 to S syllables, wherein each said instruction execution pipelines  
6 is L lanes wide, each of said L lanes capable of receiving one of  
7 said one to S syllables of said instruction bundles;

8                an instruction cache capable of storing a plurality of  
9 cache lines, each of said cache lines comprising C\*L syllables;

10              an instruction issue unit capable of receiving fetched  
11 ones of said plurality of cache lines and issuing complete  
12 instruction bundles toward said C execution clusters; and

13              alignment and dispersal circuitry capable of receiving  
14 said complete instruction bundles from said instruction issue unit  
15 and routing each said received complete instruction bundles to a  
16 correct one of said C execution clusters as a function of at least  
17 one address bit associated with each of said complete instruction  
18 bundles.

1       2. The data processor as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said  
2 alignment and dispersal circuitry routs each said received complete  
3 instruction bundles to said correct execution cluster as a function  
4 of at least one address bit associated with at least one syllable  
5 in said each complete instruction bundle.

1       3. The data processor as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said  
2 alignment and dispersal circuitry routes each received complete  
3 instruction bundles to said correct execution cluster as a function  
4 of a cluster bit associated with each complete instruction bundle.

1       4. The data processor as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said  
2 alignment and dispersal circuitry routs each said received complete  
3 instruction bundles to said correct execution cluster as a function  
4 of a stop bit associated with at least one syllable in said each  
5 complete instruction bundle.

1       5. The data processor as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said  
2 alignment and dispersal circuitry comprises multiplexer circuitry  
3 capable of routing said each received complete instruction bundle  
4 to any one of said C execution clusters.

1       6. The data processor as set forth in Claim 5 wherein said  
2 alignment and dispersal circuitry comprises control logic circuitry  
3 capable of controlling said multiplexer circuitry.

1       7. The data processor as set forth in Claim 6 wherein said  
2 control logic circuitry controls said multiplexer circuitry as a  
3 function of at least one of:

4           1) said at least one address bit associated with said  
each complete instruction bundle;

5           2) at least one address bit associated with at least one  
syllable in said each complete instruction bundle; and

6           3) a cluster bit associated with said each complete  
instruction bundle.

7       8. The data processor as set forth in Claim 1 wherein L=4.

8       9. The data processor as set forth in Claim 1 wherein C=3.

1           10. A processing system comprising:  
2                 a data processor;  
3                 a memory coupled to said data processor;  
4                 a plurality of memory-mapped peripheral circuits coupled  
5         to said data processor for performing selected functions in  
6         association with said data processor, wherein said data processor  
7         comprises:

8                         C execution clusters, each of said C execution  
9         clusters comprising an instruction execution pipeline having  
10        N processing stages capable of executing instruction bundles  
11        comprising from one to S syllables, wherein each said  
12        instruction execution pipelines is L lanes wide, each of said  
13        L lanes capable of receiving one of said one to S syllables of  
14        said instruction bundles;

15                         an instruction cache capable of storing a plurality  
16        of cache lines, each of said cache lines comprising C\*L  
17        syllables;

18                         an instruction issue unit capable of receiving  
19        fetched ones of said plurality of cache lines and issuing  
20        complete instruction bundles toward said C execution clusters;  
21        and

22                         alignment and dispersal circuitry capable of

23 receiving said complete instruction bundles from said  
24 instruction issue unit and routing each said received complete  
25 instruction bundles to a correct one of said C execution  
26 clusters as a function of at least one address bit associated  
27 with each of said complete instruction bundles.

1 11. The processing system as set forth in Claim 10 wherein  
2 said alignment and dispersal circuitry routs each said received  
3 complete instruction bundles to said correct execution cluster as  
4 a function of at least one address bit associated with at least one  
5 syllable in said each complete instruction bundle.

1 12. The processing system as set forth in Claim 10 wherein  
2 said alignment and dispersal circuitry routs each said received  
3 complete instruction bundles to said correct execution cluster as  
4 a function of a cluster bit associated with said each complete  
5 instruction bundle.

1       13. The processing system as set forth in Claim 10 wherein  
2       said alignment and dispersal circuitry routs each said received  
3       complete instruction bundles to said correct execution cluster as  
4       a function of a stop bit associated with at least one syllable in  
5       said each complete instruction bundle.

1       14. The processing system as set forth in Claim 10 wherein  
2       said alignment and dispersal circuitry comprises multiplexer  
3       circuitry capable of routing said each received complete  
4       instruction bundle to any one of said C execution clusters.

1       15. The processing system as set forth in Claim 14 wherein  
2       said alignment and dispersal circuitry comprises control logic  
3       circuitry capable of controlling said multiplexer circuitry.

1        16. The processing system as set forth in Claim 15 wherein  
2        said control logic circuitry controls said multiplexer circuitry as  
3        a function of at least one of:

- 4              1) said at least one address bit associated with said  
5        each complete instruction bundle;
- 6              2) at least one address bit associated with at least one  
7        syllable in said each complete instruction bundle; and
- 8              3) a cluster bit associated with said each complete  
9        instruction bundle.

1        17. The processing system as set forth in Claim 10 wherein  
2        L=4 .

1        18. The processing system as set forth in Claim 10 wherein  
2        C=3 .

1           19. For use in a data processor comprising C execution  
2       clusters, each of the C execution clusters comprising an  
3       instruction execution pipeline having N processing stages capable  
4       of executing instruction bundles comprising from one to S  
5       syllables, wherein each the instruction execution pipelines is L  
6       lanes wide, each of the L lanes capable of receiving one of the one  
7       to S syllables of the instruction bundles, a method of routing  
8       instruction bundles into the L lanes in the C execution clusters  
9       comprising the steps of:

10           fetching cache lines from an instruction cache, each of  
11       the cache lines comprising  $C*L$  syllables;

12           issuing complete ones of the instruction bundles toward  
13       the C execution clusters; and

14           routing each the received complete instruction bundles to  
15       a correct one of the C execution clusters as a function of at least  
16       one of:

17           1) the at least one address bit associated with the  
18       each complete instruction bundle;

19           2) at least one address bit associated with at least  
20       one syllable in the each complete instruction bundle; and

21           3) a cluster bit associated with the each complete  
22       instruction bundle.

1           20. The method as set forth in Claim 19 wherein L=4 and C=3.